The federal government will soon decide if New Jersey can keep the nation's strongest Do Not Call list. I urge the federal government not to weaken one of New Jersey's most successful consumer protection laws -- the Do Not Call Program.

Over 2.8 million New Jerseyans have already signed up for the Do Not Call Program (representing approximately two out of every three residential phone lines in the state). The program has been a resounding success; many residents report almost a 100 percent drop in unwanted sales calls. Most likely due to its success, the law is under a coordinated attack from telemarketers who want the ability to call people despite the fact they have already signed up to stop telemarketing sales calls.

Specifically, businesses want the ability to contact any person on the Do Not Call list who they have conducted business with during the last 18 months. The New Jersey law does not include this exemption.

I am opposed opposed to any weakening of the NJ program.